



## Weekly Newsletter – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Apologies for the slight delay in the weekly newsletter coming out but I was not in school on Friday. Just a quick reminder that there is a parent meeting for the Year 6 residential trip to Kilvrough on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6pm. This will be an opportunity to discuss what will happen during the week, hand out important information and forms that will need to be completed. Children can attend the meeting.

### Stars of the Week

**This week our stars are:**

**Y1:** Ryla Rigg, Cecilia Milne

**Y2:** Maddox Kiddimu, Eden Barrett, George Gryckiewicz

**Y3:** Rosie Rae Cain, Eloise Martin

**Y4:** Maisie Jennings, Lyla Gutteridge

**Y5:** Everyone

**Y6:** Charlie Casey, Aeron Neighbour, Ashleigh Sabin, Betsy Hambridge, Sophie Maxwell, Seb Swain



**Congratulations to these children for moving up a level in Reading Plus which is used by the Year 6 children: Betsy Hambridge, Jude Horner, Ashleigh Sabin, Stanley Chamlet, Max Thomas, Alana Johnson.**

## Dates For Your Diary

Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January to Friday 16<sup>th</sup> January: Assessment week (children will complete midyear assessments)

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> January: 7pm MLSA AGM at the Crown

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January: 6pm Kilvrough parent meeting

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: Year 1 & Year 3 visit from P.C Ben

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January: 1pm Yr 5 & 6 girls football tournament (Thame)

Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February: Year 5 & 6 careers fair

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> February: Year 5 & 6 careers fair for whole school to participate in

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February to Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: Science week

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> February: Reception Class eye test

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: MLSA Valentines Disco

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February: Last day of term

## Smartphone Free School

As many families may know, smartphones have become a constant presence in young people's lives – often in ways that make learning and socialising harder, not easier. The school is planning to consult with governors and parents as we explore moving to a smartphone free school. The main reasons for banning smartphones is they affect children's well-being. Constant notifications, group chats, and social media can create pressure, anxiety and FOMO. As a school, we want children talking, playing and building friendships face-to-face. When phones are around, children often default to screens instead of interacting with the people right next to them. Smartphones have been shown to contribute to bullying and conflict. A lot of modern bullying happens through photos or social media. These problems often spill over into school. We will be holding a meeting for parents on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm. This will be an opportunity to listen to a talk from the Thame Smartphone Free Childhood team and to discuss the merits of becoming a smartphone free school. It would be lovely to have as many people at the meeting as possible.

## Careers Fair

Just a quick reminder about our careers fair. 2 Years ago, we held our very first successful careers fair, which proved to be very successful so much so that we are repeating it again this year. We start with parents coming in and showing children what jobs they do which acts as a stimulus for the Year 5 & 6 children to create their own careers fair which the younger children come along to and then vote on the career they most liked the look of. If you are able to come along and be a parent who comes in and shares their career with the children for the adult career fair, we would love to hear from you. Parents talking about their careers will be on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 1pm. All the parents will be in the hall and will have their own table area. Last time, parents brought activities for the children to do linked to their jobs. If you would like to take part, please email [head.2465@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:head.2465@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk). We would love to have a variety of jobs on show. Your child does not have to be in Year 5 or 6 for you to come and share your job with them. Thank you to the 2 parents who have already offered.